

Moving to Work Program

The **Metropolitan Council Housing and Redevelopment Authority** (Metro HRA) is the largest administrator of the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) in Minnesota, providing rent assistance to 7,200 low-income families.

The Moving to Work (MTW) program is a designation authorized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that allows innovation and flexibility in how federal rent assistance programs are operated. MTW agencies have the ability to:

- waive certain federal regulations and program rules
- design strategies to meet the local market condition
- shift the focus from administrative process to family success

There are nearly 4,000 housing authorities in the country, 39 of which have MTW designation. Congress authorized an MTW expansion to an additional 100 agencies. The expansions are offered in 4 separate cohorts, each offered separately and testing one specific policy change.

- MTW flexibility overall – This cohort was offered in 2018 only to small agencies. The Council's HRA is considered a large agency.
- **Rent Reform – Metro HRA submitted a letter of interest in June 2019 and has now been invited to submit a full application.**
- Work Requirements – Notice not issued yet
- Landlord Incentives – Notice not issued yet

The goals of the MTW program are to:

- Expand housing choice for low-income families
- Create efficiencies in service delivery
- Assist families in making progress towards self sufficiency